



ANINDILYAKWA LAND COUNCIL

23 January 2013

Dr. Bill Pender
Inquiry Secretary
Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT, 2600

Sent via email: jscna@aph.gov.au

Dear Bill,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the inquiry into the development of Northern Australia. For the Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC), the Traditional Owners of the Groote archipelago and other organisations operating in the region, this is a welcomed area for further planning and strategic investment.

The ALC is currently implementing a 15 year strategic plan which I have included here for your information. The ALC is working on a range of exciting initiatives to build a thriving and diversified local economy for the people of the Groote archipelago.


Under the strategic plan the ALC is working with stakeholders in the region to establish an economy beyond mining and is currently investigating sustainable enterprise development opportunities including the establishment of aquaculture ventures. Opportunities to strengthen logistical networks, increase accessibility to markets and the establishment of sustainable businesses that are locally owned and operated to create a strong local economy and provide employment opportunities to Indigenous people are welcomed.

The ALC is also in the early stages of constructing Knowledge Centres in the Indigenous communities of Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island which will harness and promote cultural activities including establishing cultural enterprises, build tourism and promote the rich and ancient culture of the Anindilyakwa people.

The ALC is also working with Groote Eylandt Mining Company, which is majority owned and operated by BHP Billiton, on a proposal for a new and expanded mining agreement for the mining of manganese on Groote Eylandt. The proposed mining agreement would provide a plan for normalising the mining operated town of Alyangula, establish a housing market and explore other opportunities to build the longevity of Alyangula post mining.

These are just some of the activities ALC is involved in. The ALC would be pleased to provide any further information to support plans to increase economic development in the region.

Yours sincerely,


Mark Hewitt
Chief Executive
Anindilyakwa Land Council